

S/Patent A
E.R.
5-13-98

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Walker et al.

) Group Art Unit: 2202

For: CONDITIONAL PURCHASE OFFER

)) Examiner:

MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

P. Lai

Serial No. 08/889,319

MAY 6 1998

Filed: July 8, 1997

) Docket No.: WD2-96-0083

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

MAY 1 1998

GROUP 2500

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.121

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1 – 97 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

~98. A method for processing a sale, comprising:

receiving a conditional purchase offer that includes a price and a condition;
identifying a rule from a seller, the rule including a restriction; and
determining whether the condition satisfies the restriction.

99. The method of claim 98, further comprising:

A,